

FAYETTE COUNTY COUNCIL

June 4, 2024

BE IT REMEMBERED:

That the Fayette County Council of Fayette County, State of Indiana, met in regular session on the above date at 6:00 p.m. with the following present: Council members Sharon Cranfill, Bob Stewart, Scott Bevington, Jim Wulff, Tim Patterson, Kay Riker-Peyton, and Mike Wenta along with Auditor Jane Downard and County Attorney Geoff Wesling of said County and State.

President Cranfill called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

MINUTES:

Councilman Bevington moved to approve the minutes from the May 8th regular meeting, Councilman Wulff seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

MAIL/EMAIL:

None

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

County Attorney Geoff Wesling shared with council that the City of Connersville passed an ordinance to implement the LIT Public Safety Tax. County Council will also have to hold a public hearing and take a vote. Councilman Wenta moved to hold a public hearing at the beginning of the July 2nd meeting, Councilman Stewart seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mike Wenta and Tim Patterson reversed board appointment positions. Mike is 911 and Tim is Tax Abatement. Councilman Wenta moved to approve the changes, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded them motion, motion carried 7-0.

COMMISSIONER REPRESENTATIVE:

Commissioners Dale Strong and Dale Munson were present. Commissioner Strong updated the council on today's commissioner meeting. Commissioners had a public hearing and adopted a Peddler's Ordinance recommended by Sheriff Zac Jones. They approved two 144s, one to hire Kelli Reed in the Assessor's office and one for Deann Revalee in Community Corrections. They approved the bid contract for this year's Community Crossings Paving Project and awarded it to Dave O'Mara. They also approved two contracts with Big B for waste removal at the Animal Shelter and the Jail.

Councilman Wenta asked Commissioner Strong if the county had any kind of ordinance regarding Air BnBs, and he suggested we should consider putting something in place. He said he had been approached by a constituent about an Air BnB in their neighborhood who shared complaints about the Air BnB. He also said the county should be charging them the innkeeper's tax. Councilman Stewart said he thinks Area Planning should discuss zoning issues for Air BnBs, and Commissioner Strong said Area Plan Director Bill MacDaniel would know of any zoning and permitting rules. Commissioner Strong said he would make a note to follow up.

Councilman Patterson said that he had visited the jail and was cautioned in the control room to step carefully because the floor is rotten. Councilman Patterson said he went to the internet and got a quote for the floor and it would only cost \$7,000 to fix it. He said there are monitors that are not working, and the padded cell is destroyed. Sheriff Zac Jones said he had contacted two different companies regarding the padded cell and has not been able to get a call back and cannot find anyone to do the work. He said the locks aren't working, and one of the showers is dangerous. He said there are broken windows that need to be fixed. Sheriff Zac Jones said it is hard to find jail glass, and he said our maintenance man is there constantly fixing the windows. Councilman Patterson said there are numerous cameras that are out, and Sheriff Jones said all the important cameras are working. Councilman Patterson asked about bulk buying of consumable products and said we could save money, and Commissioner Strong said he would like to see his research on the dollars he's saying we could save. Councilwoman Cranfill suggested the Budget and Finance Committee could meet and discuss those things. Councilwoman Riker-Peyton asked about transporting between the jail and the new facility, and Commissioner Strong and Sheriff Jones said they believe there will be some repairs made to the paving and the alley could be shut

off and an awning put in place. Commissioner Strong said there is a long list of items that need to be done, and at the end of the day it comes down to money. He said they are doing the best they can with what they have available.

Commissioner Strong just last week spoke to a representative from Wells Masonry Restoration located in New Palestine about doing tuck point repair on the courthouse. They are currently doing a tuck pointing job for St. Gabriel Church.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERS:

911 Director Kelly VanMeter presented an Additional Appropriation to Statewide 911 Fund 1222 Account 40400 Equipment in the amount of 7,145 for the county's half of a combiner. Councilman Wenta moved to approve the additional as presented, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded, motion carried 7-0.

Judge Paul Freed presented an Additional Appropriation to County General Fund 1000 Superior Court Account 30031 Interpreter in the amount of \$3,500. Councilman Wulff moved to approve the additional as presented, Councilman Stewart seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

EMA Director Wade Walling presented an Additional Appropriation to County General Fund 1000 Emergency Management Account 20210 Gas/Oil and Diesel in the amount of \$923. Councilman Wenta moved to approve the additional as presented, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

Animal Shelter Director Dave Ryckman presented two Transfers From Animal Shelter Donation Fund 4102 Account 30502 Remodeling Costs To Account 20290 Supplies in the amount of \$8,500 and \$1,350. Councilman Stewart moved to approve the transfers as presented, Councilman Wulff seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0. Dave shared with council the plaque he has purchased to recognize donors who gave more than \$250.

144s:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Grant Administrator Jolissa Bates presented Resolution 24-R-3 Statement of Benefits Compliance for Falmouth Farm Supply. Councilman Bevington moved to approve the Resolution as presented, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Wenta moved to approve the suggested dates for budget hearings to begin August 13th and budget adoption September 17th, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Wenta moved to reimburse Kathy Holbert, the acting coroner, the amount of the existing coroner's salary from the date of Cord Coyle's death through the date that Eddie Richardson will be eligible to assume full duties, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Wenta discussed the Public Safety Tax and suggested the county consider dedicating part of the public safety income received to the volunteer fire departments. It was agreed that council would try to set up a meeting with the city to discuss this.

PATRON CONCERNS:

Veteran Services Officer Ron Stevens shared that this month is PTSD Awareness Month and he encouraged anyone who suffers from PTSD to discuss it and for people to be aware of those who may suffer from it. He encouraged everyone to visit the Recorder's Office and view their display honoring veterans.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Stewart moved to adjourn, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0. Meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Sharon Cranfill, President

Sharon Cranfill, President

Scott Bevington

Scott Bevington

Kay Riker-Peyton

Kay Riker-Peyton

Jim Wulff

Jim Wulff

Bob Stewart

Bob Stewart, Vice President

Tim Patterson

Tim Patterson

Mike Wenta

Mike Wenta

Jane Downard

Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor